

WARREN SENTINEL



"Jolly Rogers"

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Volume 65, Issue 1

F. E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.

Jan. 6, 2006

Putting it into perspective *Lessons learned at Walter Reed* 2

New Year's message *Commentary by 90th SW Commander* 3

Best in Air Force *Firefighters take home top honor* 6

2005 year in review



Courtesy photo

FAREWELL PEACEKEEPER

Two members of the 400th Missile Squadron salute a 400th MS Missileer as he approaches the gate of Papa 1 Missile Alert Facility in Albin, Wyo. The Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile was deactivated Sept. 19, 2005 and the 400th MS was inactivated shortly thereafter. At one point, Warren controlled 50 Peacekeeper missiles.

Warren's Katrina support

5



Peacekeeper deactivation

12



Million dollar baby

17



Commentary

Lessons learned at Walter Reed

Tech. Sgt. Steve Goetsch
Public Affairs

There is a terrible affliction that is affecting our Air Force. It is not life-threatening, nor can it be treated at the hospital. It can however, affect productivity and morale. I am referring to whining. I realized I was stricken about two years ago. A couple of months ago, I found a pretty effective cure.

I have been going through treatments for a bad back for more than two years. Matter of fact, I have been in and out of so many doctors' offices, I should receive frequent flyer miles.

During this period, I started to feel that I was getting less-than-adequate medical care. Maybe it was the rescheduled appointments, the numerous prescriptions or the tedious waiting times at the hospital. It could have just been the frustration of being in pain for such a long period of time. Whatever the case, I was swimming in a very deep pool of my own pity.

During an extended training TDY, I was afforded the opportunity to see some physicians at one of the most prestigious medical facilities in the world, Walter Reed Medical Center.

I was ecstatic because I thought it was the kind of care I deserved and earned after almost 15 years of service. It was there that the whole game changed for me.

After navigating through the maze of corridors, I found my way to the pain management clinic and checked in. The waiting room was full, so I strolled down an adjacent hallway to pass the time. The clinic next to mine was physical therapy.

There standing in front of me were several amputees, working with their new prosthetic devices. Some of the amputees were biding their lengthy stays by taking walks and getting something from the snack bar or visiting with their fellow injured servicemen and women.

The amazing thing to me was these individuals were all smiling and upbeat. I thought to myself, "how can someone be happy after such a terrible incident?" Maybe it was the satisfaction they received from

making progress in their recovery, or just the simple fact that they were still alive. Could something that simple bring peace during such an awful time in one's life?

The bravery exhibited by our servicemembers serving in hostile war zones has been well documented, but we can all learn something from their inspiring demeanor.

I was so impressed with all of these servicemen and women, it has given me a new attitude.

Life is not easy.

It is even more difficult being in the military with long hours and family separations to deal with. There are so many times when you could scream at the top of your lungs or even just throw your hands up and surrender, but the individuals I witnessed will inspire me and help me to cope with all of life's challenges, probably for the rest of my life.

Some people seem like they never have the ability to be happy. It probably takes a lot of work and creativity to maintain such a negative attitude. No matter where they are, it's the worst place to be. No matter what they are doing, it's beneath them or they are being "picked on," or in my case, "why does this have to happen to me."

When you have to work late, or the next time you are caught in traffic or someone takes the last parking spot from you, instead of yelling or throwing a fit, think of those individuals who are facing daily challenges that you or I cannot fathom.

It is easy to think that the world is against you and nothing is going in your favor, but when you get a cheerful, "good morning" from a double amputee, it really puts it all into perspective.

Street Talk

The Warren Sentinel asked Warren members, "What are you looking forward to this year?"



"I am looking forward to a fresh start."

- Senior Airman Anthony Williams, 90th Maintenance Operations Squadron



"I am looking forward to my son turning 1 year old."

- Airman 1st Class Tara Mendoza, 90th Missile Security Forces Squadron



"I am looking forward to finishing my studies in computer science."

- Airman 1st Class Francisco Rivera Lusanta, 90th Missile Security Forces Squadron



"I am looking forward to finishing my CDCs (Career Development Course), making A1C and seeing what Cheyenne Frontier Days is all about."

- Airman Jennifer Finch, 90th Medical Operations Squadron

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Articles are due to public affairs, Building 250, room 201, by 4:30 p.m. Thursday the week before publication. Classified ads are due by 11 a.m. Tuesday the week of publication.

Classified ads can also be dropped off or mailed to Wyoming Newspapers, Inc., 202 E. 18th St., by 1 p.m. Tuesday the week of publication. Articles and ads that don't meet these deadlines won't be considered for that week's issue. Edito-

rial content is edited, prepared and provided by 90th Space Wing Public Affairs of Warren Air Force Base, Wyo., of Air Force Space Command. All photographs are Air Force photographs unless otherwise indicated. Public affairs reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.

Direct questions or comments to the SENTINEL at 773-3381 or e-mail at Sentinel@warren.af.mil.

Published by:
Wyoming Newspapers, Inc.
202 E. 18th St., Cheyenne, WY, 82005
(307) 632-5666
Sentinel@warren.af.mil

90th SW Commander to troops: 'All of you are critical to our mission success'

Col. Michael Carey
90th Space Wing Commander

We have successfully finished one of the busiest years in the history of the 90th Space Wing which included higher headquarters inspections, ongoing Minuteman III modernization, Peacekeeper deactivation, hurricane relief support efforts, deployments and the sustainment of our ongoing ICBM mission:

strategic deterrence. This year the challenges and opportunities will be just as intense with the added Capabilities Exercise (CAPEX-06) - Nuclear Weapon Accident Demonstration in June and "Passing the Torch" - 90th Bombardment Group and 90th Space Wing's celebration of our World War II heritage in August. I hope you have taken some time during this holiday season to relax and enjoy some downtime

with family and friends. Please continue to be careful and watch out for each other. All of you are critical to our mission success, no matter what role you play within the wing. Finally, please continue to remember our deployed servicemembers and ensure we take care of their families and loved ones.

Melody and I wish everyone in the Mighty Ninety a happy New Year.



The greatest generation Priceless memories from an officer's father-in-law

Capt. Nicole Walters
Public Affairs

My father-in-law is the coolest person ever.

His name is Leonard Farnham, and he's 81. He and my mother-in-law, Pat, live in a little town in northwest Iowa. They've lived there almost all of their lives and been married for more than 54 years.

My husband Rob and I call them every Sunday.

The first topic of conversation is always the same: corn. It doesn't matter if there is two feet of snow on the ground; we talk about corn. Corn comes before the weather, before politics, before health.

Now to tell you the truth

(and I could be forever shunned for telling you this), I don't care about the price of corn. I don't understand it, but I have accepted it as just one of those things in life.

There are things we talk about, like corn, and things we don't, like war. Being a former investigational reporter, I wanted to know about the things we don't talk about. So over the years, I've secretly interviewed family members to try to find why Leonard is, well, Leonard.

Leonard grew up in Iowa, and at the young age of 19, he was drafted into the Army. Leonard didn't quibble or argue, he stood up and said he was going to

fight for his country.

I don't think he totally understood the war doctrine and why the overthrow of fascism was important to democratic vitality, he just accepted that serving your country was just one of those things in life.

Leonard went through basic training and became a trained infantryman, and was sent to Italy.

World War II was gritty, dirty and tough. It made men out of boys -- and Leonard was no exception. He and his platoon walked hundreds of miles as they made their way up the boot of Italy. And they were shot at the whole way.

One night, in the heat of combat, Leonard and his

buddies were defending their foxhole.

A grenade was thrown into their foxhole. It exploded.

When Leonard came to, his buddies were protecting him once again. They had been killed, and their bodies were lying on top of him. He could tell he was hurt, but he didn't know how badly.

Leonard could hear the enemy approaching the foxhole, and they stabbed the corpses of Leonard's buddies with their bayonets as they passed. Leonard's buddies saved his life.

The shrapnel from the grenade tore up Leonard's leg pretty badly, and he spent time in the hospital before the Army gave him a

Purple Heart and medically discharged him.

He went back to Iowa, married Pat (who he met at a church picnic) and raised three sons. And he never talked about WWII again.

Leonard is part of 'The Greatest Generation,' but he doesn't see it that way. He just did what he had to do. He sees us as the greatest generation because now he sees the importance of democracy.

The price of corn isn't important. It's the meaning behind the words that is an unspoken thank you to the greatest man in 'The Greatest Generation' and his unspoken thank you to our generation. And that is priceless.

Warren provides support in wake of Katrina

**Airman 1st Class
Connor Elayan**
Public Affairs

In support of Joint Task Force Katrina, a group of Warren servicemembers deployed Sept. 2, 2005 to Columbus AFB, Miss., to aid in hurricane relief efforts.

"This is a very important mission," said Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz, Air Force Space Command Vice Commander. "I'm extraordinarily proud of everyone in the 20th Air Force and in AFSPC who made this happen, and of the pilots, maintainers, security forces and support troops who are now providing help directly to those who so desperately need it in Mississippi and Louisiana."

Warren provided 10 aircrew members and two of eight Huey helicopters sent by Air Force Space Command and 20th AF to perform 24-hour operations in support of JTF Katrina.

"The Hurricane Katrina relief effort represents the first time we have deployed our helicopters outside their normal flying area to support emergency operations and is also the largest single deployment of AFSPC helicopters anywhere, ever," said General



Photos by Mark Crabtree

First Lt. Kevin Weaver, 37th Helicopter Squadron co-pilot and assistant chief of training, prepares to deploy Sept. 2, 2005 in support of Joint Task Force Katrina.

Klotz. "We have in essence created a stand-alone helicopter squadron with eight aircraft from four different AFSPC Air Force bases."

Warren also deployed support personnel to include security forces, medical, aircrew support, logistics, maintenance and communications members,

who were flown to Columbus AFB, Miss., in a C-130 from an Air National Guard unit stationed out of Maxwell AFB, Ala.

"Although our contribution is only one aspect of the overall effort, we feel privileged to be a part of rescue and recovery in support of Joint Task

Force Katrina," said Col. Michael Carey, 90th Space Wing Commander.

While deployed, the aircrews and support contingent performed humanitarian relief, reconnaissance and medical evacuation operations.

"The helicopters assigned to the 20th Air Force are primarily dedicated to providing security top cover for America's intercontinental ballistic missile force. However, because of their inherent capabilities, such as the forward-looking infrared system, they can also be used for search-and-rescue missions," said General Klotz. "In fact, our helicopters quite often provide support to local civil authorities in searching for lost children, hikers, snowmobilers, and so on, in and around communities where they are based."

Despite long hours and the possibility of being forward deployed, Warren members were eager to provide support in any way they could.

"It's a sad situation,"

said Tech. Sgt. William Guthrie, 90th Logistics Readiness Squadron. "I'm ready to help in any way I can."

"It's the right thing to do," said Master Sgt. Jim Mauriello, 20th AF. "I'm looking forward to being part of a team that helps people fulfill their needs."

While some of the deploying servicemembers left families behind to help support the disaster relief effort, Sergeant Mauriello says his family was more than willing to make the sacrifice.

"They are a military family so they understand need and commitment," said Sergeant Mauriello. "They know making this sacrifice will help someone else."

Warren pledged to provide support for the families of deployed members in their absence, said Colonel Carey.

"It all goes back to the wingman concept," he said. "We will be sure to take care of the families left behind by this deployment."



Lt. Gen. Frank Klotz speaks to members of the 37th Helicopter Squadron before a deployment of Warren aircrews and support personnel Sept. 2, 2005 in support of Joint Task Force Katrina.

Briefs

Cookie drive a great success!

Thank you F. E. Warren for your outpouring of support for our Airmen! Due to the generosity of our military families and the local community, more than 650 Airmen each received one dozen homemade cookies for the holidays. Extra cookies even made their way out to the troops who were on duty Christmas day. Thank you again and see you next December for F. E. Warren's Great Cookie Launch.

Christmas tree pick-up

Christmas tree pick up is scheduled for today, Monday and Tuesday.

Residents should place undecorated trees in front of their residence on the curb for pickup. No artificial trees will be taken.

For more information, contact Tech. Sgt. Anthony Aquilino at 773-2633.

MSET Assessment

Warren's first Missile Standardization, Evaluation and Training Assessment is scheduled for Jan. 16 to 20. MSET, formerly known as the Combat Capability Assessment, is an inspection that evaluates how Warren trains and evaluates its people to effectively safeguard and/or employ 150 Minuteman III intercontinental ballistic missiles upon direction from the president.

For more information, contact Lt. Col. Jeff Jenkins or Capt. Mike Morris at 773-2135.

Facility Managers needed

The 90th Operations Group is seeking mission focused personnel with drive and self-initiative in the grades of staff to technical sergeant to serve as Missile Facility Managers, AFSC 8S000. Facility Managers are responsible for multi-million-dollar facility maintenance as well as the conduct of at least seven personnel on a daily basis. To find out more about this special-duty, controlled tour assignment, contact Master Sgt. Michael Whittaker at 773-4210.

Everyday heroes

Warren's firefighters named best in AF

Airman 1st Class

Connor Elayan

Public Affairs

They serve our installation and our community.

Their jobs include selflessness and bravery.

They put the lives of strangers before their own.

They demonstrate professionalism and courage on a daily basis.

And now, the Warren Fire Department has won the prestigious Chief Master Sgt. Ralph E. Sanborn Award, earning them the title of "Best Fire Department in the Air Force."

Warren's finest competed against the best fire departments in each MAJCOM in categories such as customer service, innovativeness and quality of life initiatives.

This is the first time in 10 years that Warren firefighters brought home this award. As it is more common for larger installations to win the award, the win for Warren is even more impressive.

"Typically larger installations have been very successful," said Chief John McDougall, Warren's fire chief. "Because they have such a large mission, they can put the big numbers on paper."

Warren does not have a flying mission, which adds significance to winning the award.

"The fact that Warren won without a flying mission is incredible, to say the least," said Lt. Col. Joe Ballard, 90th Civil Engineer Squadron commander.

One of the key factors in their win is participation in mutual aid agreements with local emergency response teams.

"The fact that we are involved in the community and we respond off base had a lot to do with winning the award," said Chief McDougall.

Because Warren firefighters often work with local emergency response teams, they make it a priority to maintain a strong bond with the community.

"The feedback we get is always positive," said Master Sgt. Joe Walsh, fire department assistant chief of training. "No one is ever negative about the job we do."

Besides courage and bravery,



Photo by Airman 1st Class Tessa Cubbon

Named best fire department in the Air Force in 2005, Warren's firefighters train for fire ground operations at the base live fire training facility in 2005.

the firefighters display professionalism and skill on a daily basis.

"They are dedicated professionals who share a common bond of sacrificing themselves to ensure the safety of others," said Sergeant Walsh. "When other folks are running out of hazardous environments, they are running in."

Although they serve the installation and the surrounding community with pride, their job can be very emotionally challenging.

"They understand firsthand the price that is paid by the victims of these events," said Sergeant Walsh. "Through their eyes they have seen the joy of healing a small child and the horror of discovering a deceased

body from the wreckage of a 33-car pile up.

When not responding to calls, the firefighters spend much of their time in training.

They are trained on a multitude of tasks ranging from medical response and first aid to mobility and hazardous material.

"Even though we are a small fire department, we are still required to maintain Air Force standards," said Sergeant Walsh.

Members of Warren's Fire Department formally received their trophy during a trip to Bolling AFB, Washington, D.C., in February 2005.

"I am extremely proud of our fire department," said Colonel Ballard. "They are everyday heroes."

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Warren's historic homes to be renovated

Multi-million dollar project to correct lead-based paint problem

2nd Lt. Josh Edwards
Public Affairs

The 90th Civil Engineer Squadron completed negotiations in 2005 on an estimated \$28 million lead-based paint abatement project for Warren's historic brick houses.

"Warren received almost the entire Air Force family housing budget for Fiscal Year 2005 to correct the lead-based paint problem in our historic homes," said Col. Michael Carey, 90th Space Wing Commander.

"The base and the entire Air Force are very committed to ensuring these homes are safe for our military families as well as ensuring their historical preservation."

The project consists of replacing windows, refurbishing doors and porches, and removing soil around the houses if necessary. This work will be completed in 155 officer and enlisted homes due to the known risks of hazardous lead-based paint.

"The project will be huge, and the impact on the quality of life will be huge," said Lt. Col. Joe Ballard, 90th CES Commander. "When the project is completed, residents will not have to walk around their homes with a fear of their children ingesting lead."

The \$28 million price tag for the project includes environmental testing after

the renovation to ensure air in the houses is safe for residents, said Colonel Ballard.

The extensive work on the brick homes, expected to take 18 to 20 months, is the result of a hazardous environment created by deterioration of the paint. The lead-based paint in the homes has been monitored over the years and interim maintenance control measures are no longer a viable option. Since 2001, a few children living in the homes tested high for blood lead levels, said Colonel Ballard.

There are close to 60 homes on base that currently sit empty awaiting renovations, said Tammy Hanesworth, 90th CES Housing Flight Chief.

Air Force Space Command became involved with the issue of lead-based paint in 2001, and in 2003 discussions began in earnest between AFSPC, Warren, the State Historic Preservation Office, National Trust Society, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation and National Parks Service to come up with possible solutions to the lead concerns, said Colonel Ballard.

"By the time I arrived here at Warren, we were at a critical junction with Space Command on trying to decide exactly what the scope of the renovation was going to be," said Colonel Ballard.



Photo by 2nd Lt. Josh Edwards

Bob Farnsworth, 90th Civil Engineer Squadron Housing Facilities Manager, assesses chipped paint on a porch of a historic brick home on Warren. The housing renovation project will take five to eight years to complete.

"Those discussions all revolved around considerations such as money, time, negotiations with SHPO, inconvenience to the occupants and many other things."

There have been inconveniences to residents throughout this process and they will continue for some time afterwards. But the advantages of lead-free homes will greatly outweigh the inconveniences, said Colonel Ballard.

"Having to pack up your family and do a full move, although only maybe 30 feet away, is a very inconvenient process, but it's the only way to do it," said Maj. Adam Curtis, 90th SW Commander's Action Group and a Warren housing resident. "The houses will be more efficient, safer and operate better."

Maj. Robert Korte, 153rd Command and Con-

trol Squadron Commander, lives in base housing with his wife and three children, ages 9, 7 and 2. For Major Korte, safety is the most important aspect of the renovation project.

"In my mind, F.E. Warren is making the right move with regard to safety in the brick houses. They're national monuments, and it's a privilege to live in them, but safety comes first. The inconveniences are almost nothing compared to safety," said Major Korte.

Major Korte's wife, Christine, echoed her husband's sentiments on the renovation process.

"Having to move during the renovation is not really an inconvenience because the houses will be so much nicer," said Mrs. Korte. "With a 2-year old in the house, being able to open the windows and not

have paint chip off will be a relief."

While quality of life is important, it's not the only concern Warren has.

"All of Warren's historic brick homes are in the national registry and are some of the oldest homes in the Air Force, dating back to the late 1800s. We are the caretakers of this historic place which presents unique challenges to renovate while preserving the heritage," said Colonel Carey.

After the lead-based paint abatement is completed, 90th CES will begin a housing privatization contract which will include a total interior renovation of the historic homes.

Colonel Ballard estimates that the entire abatement and privatization will take between five and eight years to complete.

Airmen help with Baby Noor evacuation

Iraqi baby plagued with case of spina bifida

Capt. Michael G. Johnson
386th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs

SOUTHWEST - The C-130 Hercules aircraft here have routinely hauled more than one million troops and 76,000 tons of cargo in and out of Iraq.

But on Dec. 30, 2005 the mission was not routine.

At about 4 p.m., a C-130 from the 386th Air Expeditionary Wing touched down here carrying Baby Noor, her father and grandmother on their way to the United States for medical treatment.

Baby Noor was born with spina bifida and was given one month to live by doctors in Iraq, said Maya Dietz, vice consul for the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

Georgia National Guardsmen found the baby during operations in the Abu Gharib neighborhood of Baghdad. While the troops were searching the house, the baby's grandmother took the infant to the Soldiers and asked for their help, Ms. Dietz said.

The guardsmen contacted their congressional representatives and formed an elaborate coalition of humanitarian assistance. A surgeon in Atlanta offered his services free. The commercial flights to the United States were

donated by airlines and a non-profit organization in Atlanta will pick up the additional costs for the trip.

U.S. Embassy officials met the family and took them to a local civilian airport.

The C-130 crew on this mission was from Elmendorf Air Force Base, Alaska, and originally had the day off.

"We weren't scheduled to fly, so to get alerted to fly something like this is pretty darn satisfying," said co-pilot Capt. Raul Ochoa of the 738th Expeditionary Air Squadron. "We've had the opportunity to take part in a lot of missions but this is probably the most rewarding."

The crew flew 71 troops and their gear into Iraq and flew Baby Noor and her family out.

"We're just fortunate to be able to fly them out, it was an honor," said pilot Capt. Craig Hinkley. "I've never done a humanitarian mission quite like this."

U.S. Embassy officials in Kuwait coordinated with the Kuwaiti minister of interior to allow a smooth passage to the U.S.

"They were very helpful, allowing these three Iraqis to transit though without visas," said Charles Glatz, a consul at the embassy.

While the story of Baby Noor now moves to the United States, members of



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Mark Getsy

Baby Noor's grandmother and father take the infant, who has spina bifida, from a 386th Air Expeditionary Wing C-130 Hercules to awaiting transportation. Officials from the U.S. Embassy in Kuwait met the family and escorted them to a civilian airport, from where the Iraqi family will continue their journey to the United States.

the aircrew won't soon forget the flight.

"[This was] one of the best missions I've ever done," said loadmaster Tech. Sgt. Dave

Rea. "It's not often we get to help someone like that."

Flight engineer Tech. Sgt. Bill Thomas summed it all up.

"[This flight] makes it worth getting up in the morning," he said. "I was pretty excited to do something this important."

Medals approved for hurricane relief work

RANDOLPH AFB, Texas - Servicemembers and civilians who took part in Hurricane Katrina and Hurricane Rita relief efforts may be eligible for a medal.

The director of the Joint Staff has approved awarding the Humanitarian Service Medal and the Armed Forces Service Medal for U.S. military personnel. Department of Defense civilians may receive the Armed Forces Civilian Service Medal.

To qualify for the HSM, servicemembers must have provided direct support to immediate relief operations for at least one day

in the area of eligibility -- east of and including Houston (designated as 96 degrees longitude), Alabama, Louisiana or Mississippi -- from Aug. 29 to Oct. 13, 2005.

Servicemembers eligible to receive the AFSM must have provided direct support to relief operations for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days in the continental United States from Aug. 27, 2005, to Feb. 27 - minus the specific area and time-period used to qualify for the HSM.

If a member receives an HSM for Katrina relief operations, he or she cannot receive a second HSM

for Rita. The same applies for the AFSM. However, people who receive the HSM may later qualify for the AFSM if their direct support does not include the dates and actions used in their qualifications for the HSM.

To qualify for the AFSM, civilians must have provided direct support to relief operations for 30 consecutive days or 60 non-consecutive days in the same area of eligibility and period as the AFSM.

Eligible Air Force personnel must provide proof of entitlement to their servicing military personnel flight or civilian personnel office. Supporting

documentation may consist of assignment orders, temporary duty orders or travel vouchers, a decoration citation, an enlisted or officer performance report reflecting participation or other official documentation that verifies participation.

Any colonel in a command billet or civilian equivalent can approve the awarding of these medals if supporting documentation is not available.

Once verified, the servicing military or civilian personnel flight will update individual records. For more information, contact the local MPF or CPF.

Undersecretary of Air Force speaks in deact ceremony

2nd Lt. Joshua Edwards
Public Affairs

The Peacekeeper Intercontinental Ballistic Missile mission came to an end Sept. 19, 2005 at a 10 a.m. ceremony in the Peacekeeper High Bay here.

Hundreds of Air Force members and civilians, including the Honorable Dr. Ronald M. Sega, Undersecretary of the Air Force, were on hand to celebrate the Peacekeeper's 19 successful years of nuclear deterrence.

As part of that history, 75 Warren members from various career fields, stood on stage representing the thousands of men and women who worked with the Peacekeeper throughout its 19-year history.

"Today we celebrate 19 years of Peacekeeper service," said Dr. Sega. "Behind 19 years are many more years of strategic nuclear deterrence in ICBM operations."

Dr. Sega, guest speaker at the event, had many words of thanks and appreciation to the people who made the Peacekeeper mission a success throughout its years. He also explained its development and journey to be-

coming an operational weapon system, as well as credited the Peacekeeper with helping to end the Cold War.

"Along with the rest of the nuclear triad, the Peacekeeper was a great stabilizing force in an increasingly unstable world," said Dr. Sega.

The Peacekeeper was the nation's most advanced strategic missile, so advanced that it was called Missile Experimental under President Jimmy Carter. President Ronald Reagan renamed it Peacekeeper in November, 1982.

"As the 400th Missile Squadron brought its full complement of Peacekeepers online in 1988, another aspect of the system's success came to light," said Dr. Sega. "Even though the Soviets had their own missiles, they weren't as good as Peacekeeper."

The last event of the ceremony was a missile combat crew officer at Papa One Launch Control Center confirming there are no longer Peacekeeper ICBMs on strategic alert in the 400th MS. With that confirmation, the Peacekeeper era came to a close.



Photo by Liz Saucier

Dr. Ronald Sega, Undersecretary of the Air Force, presents to General Lance W. Lord, Commander, Air Force Space Command, a letter from Donald Rumsfeld, United States Secretary of Defense, congratulating the men and women of the 90th Space Wing on the successful operation and deactivation of the Peacekeeper missile system Sept. 19, 2005.

Saturday night fights

Warren's own million dollar baby

Tech. Sgt. Steve Goetsch
Public Affairs

In addition to the issued M-9 or M-16, a Warren installation entry controller packs additional weapons like a left hook, upper cut and jab that would make even the boldest of intruders stop in their tracks.

Warren boxing team member, Senior Airman Celsa Reyes is an up-and-coming boxer who, when not pulling guard duties for the 90th Security Forces Squadron, can be found in the gym or on the road running, sparring and training.

For this Los Angeles native, boxing started early, and it was a family affair.

"I started boxing when I was 13. My brother wanted to start boxing, and I did not want to get left behind," said Reyes.

Her parents weren't too keen on the idea of seeing their daughter in the ring. "My dad is not really a fan of me boxing, and my mom thinks I am crazy," said Reyes.

Besides personal commitment to the sport, she gets inspiration from one of her heroes. "I admire Julio Cesar Chavez. He was a very talented boxer who left everything in the ring and I admire that," said Reyes.

Reyes' dedication and enthusiasm to "leave everything in the ring," has garnered praise from her coach, 1st Lt. Rodney Ellison, 319th Missile Squadron. "I think her best attribute is her willingness to work hard," said Ellison.

"There were many times when her schedule didn't allow her to practice with the team, so she



Photo by Elizabeth Davie

Senior Airman Celsa Reyes, 90th Security Forces Squadron, zeroes in on her opponent at the 2005 Armed forces Boxing Championships Feb. 19 at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

would set up practices on the weekends or during the day, when she had to work night shift so she could still get her training in."

Training is a tough mixture of ring time, running and lift-

ing weights. There is also a lot of work on technique. She had problems with some of her punches. "She would throw her hook so wide that her opponent would see it coming. We worked on it for a little while and she

kept it closer and made it faster," said Ellison. "I would have to say that it is one of her best punches now."

That's bad news for her opponents. A few have already felt the sting of this training tip. Though there is no knockout in amateur boxing, Reyes has forced a couple of "referee stops contest" decisions.

She puts in an average of eight training hours a week. That is a lot considering her sporadic schedule as a security forces member. Her training regimen is so tough, it has even changed the weight class she boxes in. She boxed in the 130-pound class at Warren, but when she went to Texas, she boxed in the 114-pound weight class. "Dropping that much weight is not easy, it took hard work and determination," said Ellison.

All of the training is paying huge dividends for Reyes. She is currently ranked number two in the country after a second place finish at the U.S.A. Boxing National Amateur Tournament. That ranking just adds to an ever-growing boxing resume. This year, she has already won a San Antonio Golden Gloves title and taken a second place to Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Natosha Eyer of Camp Lejeune, N.C., at the Armed Forces Boxing Championships Feb. 19, 2005 at Fort Huachuca, Ariz.

Though she has enjoyed success early in her career, she is optimistic and has high hopes for the future.

"I want to be number one in the nation, and win the Armed Forces Championships," said Reyes.



From beauty shop to beret

New Jersey native joined to change life

Airman 1st Class Shontia Savage, 90th Missile Security Forces Squadron, sat down recently with Airman 1st Class Brandy Holcepl to talk about how she got where she is today, her family's military history, and her plans for the future.

Where are you from?

I am from Paterson, N.J.

Is home different from here?

Home is different, winter is not as cold and we definitely get all four seasons.

What is your favorite memory from home?

Being with my family; getting together on Sundays and for holidays.

Are you married or have kids?

I am not married and I don't have kids.

When did you join the Air Force?

I joined in 2004.

Why did you join the military?

I wanted to do something different and make changes.

Why did you choose the Air Force over other military branches?

I had three uncles in the Air Force, my dad was in the Army and my dad wasn't a big fan of me going into the Army.

What was your training like?

I pictured the war movies and stuff before; but it wasn't as bad as I thought it would be.

Have you been stationed at any other bases?

No, this is my first base.

Have you ever been deployed or gone TDY?

I haven't been deployed but I did go to Buckley with some others. We went because they had low manning because a lot of their people were deploying. I was there for four months.



Photo by Airman 1st Class Brandy Holcepl

Airman 1st Class Shontia Savage, 90th Missile Security Forces Squadron, clears her weapon before turning it in to the armory at the security forces building Jan. 3. Airman Savage is planning to go to school for early childhood development.

What are your career goals?

I want to finish my time in and then go to school for early childhood development.

What do you do and what is it like?

I work in the missile field. It is a cool environment; we get a lot of work done. And if you use your downtime wisely, you can get your studying done, that is, if there are no alarms.

If you could change your job, what would you change it to?

I would like to work in public affairs because they work with people and different situations and I am really into writing and love to work with people.

Did you do any traveling before you came into the military?

Yes, I traveled to Florida, Virginia, North Carolina and Puerto Rico.

Would you like to travel

anywhere else?

I would love to travel the world.

What kind of education did you get before you joined the military?

I graduated from high school, I went to cosmetology school, and I took a couple of classes for early childhood development but I didn't get my degree yet.

How long did you work as a cosmetologist?

For two and a half years. I worked at two salons back home in New Jersey.

How did you go from being a cosmetologist to an Air Force cop?

I needed to make some changes in my life.

Have you gotten your Community College of the Air Force degree?

No, not yet. But I would love to get my degree. I think it is very important because it can

help you get further in your career.

What do you like to do in your spare time?

I like to watch television, talk on the phone, listen to music, play games and I love to read.

Do you do any volunteer work?

Yes, I do volunteer work with my flight.

What kind of volunteer work do you and your flight do?

We volunteer for events on base and community events. For example, we packaged donations for the Hurricane Katrina Disaster Relief.

Do you have any pets?

I have a pit bull. He's back home with my family in New Jersey.

Do you enjoy sports?

I don't like to play because it's too rough, but I like to watch football and boxing.

SnoFest 2006

SnoFest, the military snow sports weekend, is scheduled for Jan. 27 to 29 in Keystone, Colo. Tickets are on sale now at outdoor recreations. Prices are as follows: lift tickets are \$34 for adults and \$22 for children ages 5 to 12. A season pass costs \$129 for adults and \$79 for children ages 5 to 12. Tickets for the SnoFest parties cost \$13. Resort lodging starts at \$100. To book, call 1-800-258-0437 mention Warren Air Force Base and use the code GV7FEST. For off-resort lodging, call 719-333-7367. ODR is offering discount ski rental and transportation.

For more information, call 773-2988.

Kempo Karate School

The Warren Youth Center now hosts Kempo Karate School for ages 4 through adult.

For more information, call the youth center at 773-2564.

The Spa at the Aquatic Center

The Spa at the Aquatic Center offers massage

therapy, hot stone massage, couples massage, body wrap, sugar scrub, facial mask/reflex session, ear candling and airbrush tanning.

For more information, call 773-3195.

Water aerobics class

Water aerobics offers a low impact cardio workout. Sessions are Tuesdays and Thursdays, 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. Each session is \$3 or save with a \$30 punch card for 15 sessions. The first class is free.

For more information, call the aquatic center at 773-3195.

Xtreme Bowling

Xtreme Bowling is held Fridays from 9:30 to 11 p.m., and Saturdays from 7 to 11 p.m. The cost is \$7.50 per lane/per hour.

For more information, call 773-2210.

Ladies night

It's ladies night each Wednesday from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. at the wood skills center. Receive one-on-one

instruction on any project. The free safety orientation class is a prerequisite.

For more information, call 773-3166.

Snowman painting class

A snowman painting class is scheduled to be held 1 to 3 p.m. Saturday at the Warren Multi Crafts Center. This \$10 class is limited to 10 students ages 8 to 16. Parents must accompany children and will have the opportunity to paint a larger snowman for an additional fee.

For more information, call 773-3754.

First Steps Basketball program

Registration for the First Steps Basketball program is scheduled now through Feb. 3 for kids ages 3 and 4 years old. The cost is \$25 per child and includes all practices and scrimmages, all equipment, team uniforms, NYSCA certified coaches and an end of season banquet.

This six-week program is designed to teach young

kids the fundamentals of basketball. All instruction will take place at the youth gym on Wednesday nights from 6 to 7 p.m. starting the second week in February.

For more information, call 773-2564.

Snowmobiling adventure

Outdoor recreation is hosting a snowmobiling trip through the Snowy Mountain Range Sunday. The cost is \$115 for adults, \$60 for additional adult riders, \$35 for additional child riders (10 to 16) and children 9 and under ride free. ODR transportation cost is \$10. Must be at least 16 to operate machine alone. Trip departs ODR at 6:30 a.m. and returns to base approximately 4 p.m. For more information, call ODR at 773-2988.

Community center now open

The Warren Community Center (Fall Hall) is open Tuesdays through Thursdays from 3 to 9 p.m., Fridays and Saturdays from 1

to 11 p.m. and Sundays from 1 to 6 p.m.

Activities include pool tables, table tennis, Dance Revolution, Playstation 2 and Xbox, electronic darts, foosball and basketball. Batting cages cost \$4 per half hour. The rock climbing wall costs \$5 per hour and requires pre-certification. The four hour certification class is scheduled for Tuesday or Jan. 24 from 1 to 4 p.m. and costs \$10 per person.

For more information, call 773-3511.

Airmen's all nighter

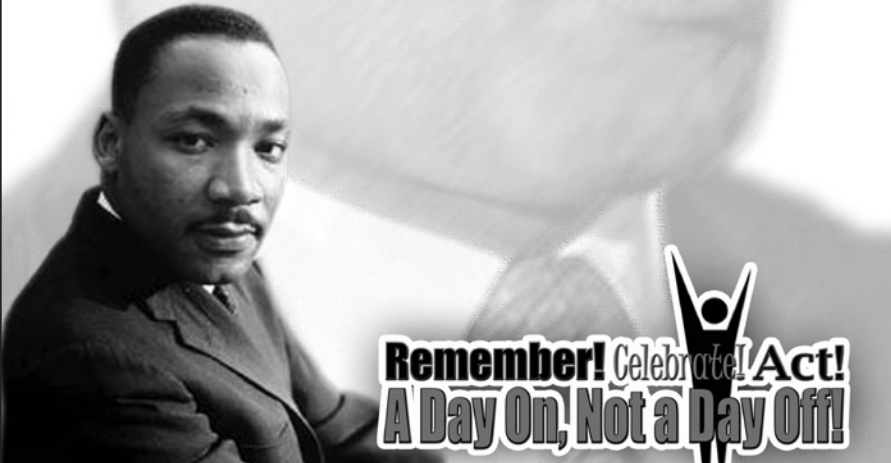
An Airmen's all nighter is scheduled from 6 p.m. to 6 a.m. Jan. 21 at the community center. Activities include karaoke contest, movies, pizza, beer, snacks, pool, dart and ping pong tournaments, three on three basketball and Madden Football. Sign up for tournaments by Wednesday. Admission is free. IDs will be checked at the door. Guests 18 and older are welcome. For more information, call 773-3511.

Martin Luther King Jr. Luncheon

Sponsored by the African-American Heritage Committee

Please Join us

**Jan. 12, 2006, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
at the Pronghorn Center**



A Tribute to Black Fraternal, Social and Civic Institutions

Education center briefs

Squadron education briefing

Would you like to have a representative from the education center come to your squadron to provide information and handouts on the educational benefits and programs available at Warren? Our education counselor and advisors are available to speak at commander's calls, staff meetings or training sessions. Call the education center at 773-2117 for more information.

Attention officers

Did you know that as an Air Force officer you are responsible for contacting the Air Force Institute of Technology to upgrade your education level on your records? You can contact AFIT by mail at: AFIT/SCIB, 2950 P Street, Wright Patterson AFB, OH, 45433-7765. To contact AFIT by phone, call DSN 785-6234, commercially (937) 255-6234 or toll-free 1-800-211-5097.

Online tuition assistance

Do you plan on using Air Force tuition assistance in fiscal year 2006? The Air Force Education Community has announced Air Force members will begin completing requests for tuition assistance online through the Air Force Portal and the Virtual Education Center. For more information, contact the education center at 773-2117.

Online tuition assistance briefing

The education center will be conducting briefings to provide information on the new Air Force Portal/Air Force Virtual Education Center Online Tuition Assistance Program. Briefings will take place in the education center at 2 p.m. Fridays starting today. For more information, contact the education center at 773-2117.

Visited the education center lately?

If you have paid us a visit, don't be surprised if you receive an e-mail asking you to rate the customer service you received during your visit. Respond honestly to the questions so that the education center may serve you better.